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Attorney for Amici Curiae
AGUDATH ISRAEL OF AMERICA
and the UNION OF ORTHODOX
JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

YITZCHOK FRANKEL;
JOSHUA GHAYOUM; and
EDEN SHEMUELJAN.

Plaintiffs.

vs.

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA; MICHAEL V. DRAKE, President of the University of California; GENE D. BLOCK, Chancellor, University of California, Los Angeles; DARRELL HUNT, Executive Vice-President and Provost; MICHAEL BECK, Administrative Vice Chancellor; MONROE GORDEN, JR., Vice Chancellor; and RICK BRAZIEL, Assistant Vice Chancellor, each in both his official and personal capacities.

Defendants.

) Case No. 2:24-cv-04702-MCS-PD

**(1) UNOPPOSED EX PARTE
APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO
FILE AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF ON
BEHALF OF AGUDATH ISRAEL
OF AMERICA AND THE UNION OF
ORTHODOX CONGREGATIONS
OF AMERICA IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

**(2) MEMORANDUM OF POINTS
AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT
OF UNOPPOSED APPLICATION
TO FILE AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF**

Judge: Hon. Mark C. Scarsi

TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

Agudath Israel of America (“Agudath Israel”) and the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America (the “Orthodox Union”) hereby applies Ex Parte to the above-entitled Court for leave to file an *amicus curiae* memorandum in support of *Plaintiffs’ Notice of Motion and Motion For Preliminary Injunction*, ECF No. 48

1 (the “Motion). Agudath Israel and the Orthodox Union have complied with Local Rule
 2 7-19.1, by providing notice to all parties in advance of filing this Application. None of
 3 the parties oppose this application. On July 23, counsel for Defendants stated that
 4 Defendants take no position on the participation of amicus in this case. Likewise, on
 5 July 23, Counsel for Plaintiffs stated that Plaintiffs consented to participation. A
 6 proposed order granting this application is also attached.

7 As described in the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities, there
 8 is good cause to grant this unopposed Application, which is within the Court’s
 9 discretion. If this Application is heard on the regular noticed motion schedule, *amici*
 10 would be irreparably harmed because there would not be time for review by the Court
 11 of their arguments before the preliminary injunction hearing on July 29. Accordingly,
 12 there is insufficient time to file the instant Application according to the regular, noticed
 13 motion procedure.

14 Pursuant to Local Rule 7-19.1, the contact information for Defendants’ counsel
 15 is as follows:

16 **Matthew R. Cowan**
 17 mcowan@omm.com
 18 400 South Hope Street, 19th Floor
 19 Los Angeles, California 90071-2899
 20 (213) 430-6000

21 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

22 *Amici* respectfully request leave to file a brief in support of the motion for a
 23 preliminary injunction. The proposed *amicus* brief will provide the Court with helpful
 24 information about the broader context surrounding the UCLA encampment, how other
 25 schools have responded, and the impact on Orthodox students in particular. A proposed
 order permitting filing of the *amicus curiae* brief is attached.

26 *Amicus curiae* assist in cases “of general public interest” by “supplementing the
 27 efforts of counsel, and drawing the court’s attention to law that might otherwise escape
 28 consideration.” *Funbus Systems, Inc. v. California Public Utilities Com.*, 801 F.2d

1 1120, 1125 (9th Cir. 1986). “District courts frequently welcome amicus briefs from
 2 nonparties concerning legal issues that have potential ramifications beyond the parties
 3 directly involved or if the amicus has unique information or perspective.” *Sonoma Falls*
 4 *Developers, LLC v. Nev. Gold & Casinos*, 272 F. Supp. 2d 919, 925 (N.D. Cal. 2003)
 5 (internal quotes omitted).

6 While no “standard, rule, or statute” governs amicus participation in district
 7 court, courts in this Circuit generally consider motions for leave to file an amicus brief
 8 under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 29. *See Stoyas v. Toshiba Corp.*, 2021 WL
 9 2315200, at *2 (C.D. Cal. June 7, 2021) (“[T]he Federal Rules of Civil Procedure do
 10 not address requests to participate as amici, therefore, district courts rely on Federal
 11 Rule of Appellate Procedure 29 … when considering such requests.” (cleaned up)).
 12 Under Rule 29(a), “amicus curiae may file a brief only by leave of court or if the brief
 13 states that all parties have consented to its filing.” Fed. R. App. Proc. 29(a).

14 To seek leave, amici must file an accompanying motion for leave to file the brief
 15 that states: (i) “the movant’s interest; and” (ii) “the reason why an amicus brief is
 16 desirable and why the matters asserted are relevant to the disposition of the case.” Fed.
 17 R. App. Proc. 29(b). “The Touchstone is whether the amicus is helpful.” *United States*
 18 *v. State Water Res. Control Bd.*, 2020 WL 9144006, at *3 (E.D. Cal. Apr. 23, 2020)
 19 (cleaned up).

20 Here, *amici*’s brief is appropriate because none of the parties oppose its filing.
 21 *See* Fed. R. App. Proc. 29(a). The brief should be permitted on this basis alone.

22 Leave is additionally appropriate here because the proposed brief, informed by
 23 the proposed *amici*’s unique insights and experiences, will assist the Court’s decision-
 24 making process. Agudath Israel is a 102-year-old nonprofit Orthodox Jewish umbrella
 25 organization. Agudath Israel has a large network of regional and state offices, affiliated
 26 synagogues, summer camps, special education, youth services, and religious study
 27 programs across the country. Agudath Israel regularly intervenes at all levels of
 28 government—including through the submission of, or participation in, *amicus curiae*

1 briefs—to advocate and protect the interests of the Orthodox Jewish community in the
 2 United States.

3 The Orthodox Union is the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella
 4 organization, representing nearly 1,000 congregations across the United States. The
 5 Orthodox Union, through its OU Advocacy Center, has participated as amicus curiae in
 6 many cases that, like this one, raise issues of importance to the Orthodox Jewish
 7 community. The Orthodox Union also has a presence on the UCLA campus, through its
 8 Jewish Learning Initiation on Campus program, which serves and supports Jewish
 9 students.

10 Together, *amici* have a strong interest in ensuring that Jewish students have equal
 11 access to education, and that Jewish students do not face harassment and threats because
 12 of their faith. The outbreak of antisemitic incidents not only at UCLA but on university
 13 campuses nationwide sharply undercut that interest. At UCLA and many other
 14 universities, Jewish students were physically prevented from accessing significant
 15 portions of the campus because of their faith and support for Israel as part of their
 16 religious observance. Orthodox Jewish students were also disproportionately targets of
 17 harassment and intimidation because of their religious dress. *Amici* therefore have a
 18 strong interest in ensuring that UCLA prevents the formation of yet another round of
 19 encampments and the accompanying exclusion, harassment, and intimidation of Jewish
 20 students, when school starts up again in the fall.

21 As outlined in the attached brief, *amici* write to put this litigation into the broader
 22 context of increased antisemitism on college campuses, and to emphasize the public
 23 interest in ensuring that Jewish students have full and equal access to education and are
 24 not harassed on the basis of their religious beliefs or dress. *Amici* will also explain how
 25 other schools have failed, or succeeded, in responding to the crisis of encampments.
 26 The perspective of *amici* is particularly relevant to the preliminary injunction factors.
 27 “Protecting religious liberty and conscience is obviously in the public interest.”
 28 *California v. Azar*, 911 F.3d 558, 582 (9th Cir. 2018).

1 Plaintiffs' motion was filed on June 24, 2024. *Amici* worked diligently to get the
2 brief prepared and on file as soon as practicable under the circumstances. There is no
3 deadline in the Central District for a motion seeking leave to file an *amicus curiae* brief.
4 Amicus participation is unopposed by all of the parties.

5 For these reasons, the Court should accept the attached *amicus* brief for filing.

6
7 DATED: July 24, 2024

8 BY: /s/ Edward R. Reines
9 EDWARD R. REINES
10 WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES LLP
11 Attorney for Amici Curiae
12 AGUDATH ISRAEL OF AMERICA
13 and the UNION OF ORTHODOX
14 JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF
15 AMERICA
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United States District Court Central District of California
Case No. 2:24-cv-04702-MCS-PD
Frankel et al. v. Regents of the University of California et al.

PROOF OF SERVICE

(Pursuant to Federal Law)

The undersigned certifies and declares as follows:

I am a resident of the State of California and over 18 years of age and am not a party to this action. My business address is 201 Redwood Shores Pkwy #400, Redwood City, CA 94065, which is located in the county where any non-personal service described below took place.

On July 24, 2024, a copy of the following document(s):

**(1) UNOPPOSED EX PARTE APPLICATION FOR LEAVE
TO FILE AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF ON BEHALF OF AGUDATH
ISRAEL OF AMERICA AND THE UNION OF ORTHODOX
CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION; (2)
MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT
OF UNOPPOSED APPLICATION TO FILE AMICUS CURIAE
BRIEF**

was served on:

Matthew R. Cowan
mcowan@omm.com
400 South Hope Street, 19th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90071-2899
(213) 430-6000

Attorneys for Defendants

Service was accomplished as follows.

By E-mail. By transmitting via e-mail or electronic transmission the document(s) listed above to the person at the e-mail address set forth above.

Executed on July 24, 2024, at Redwood City, California.

/s/ Edward Reines
Edward R. Reines